

Remarks

The Applicant has reviewed the rejections set forth in the final office action and respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims.

The Examiner has rejected the claims based on US 5,916,228 to Ripich. The Applicant continues to respectfully traverse these rejections. The claims are directed to the recess (300) shown in the drawings of the application.

Claim 17 requires the debris retention recess to be a depression defined in the front surface of the scraping wall. The '228 patent cited by the Examiner discloses a smoothly curved scraping wall without any recess defined in the front surface of the wall as required by the claim. Claim 17 is thus patentable over the '228 patent.

Claim 23 also requires the debris retention recess to be defined by the front surface of the scraping wall while also requiring the recess to be positioned between the upper and lower surfaces of the wall. Ripich '228 discloses no such recess and claim 23 is thus patentable over this reference.

Claim 28 requires the recess to be defined entirely by the scraping wall.

The Examiner has cited the gap disposed between the two scraping walls of Ripich '228. This gap is not a recess defined in the front wall as required by the claims. The Ripich '228 disclosed a simple, curved scraping surface without any recesses. The Applicant thus submits that '228 does not disclose the elements recited in the claims of the present application.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims and most earnestly solicits the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance for the claims.

Please call the undersigned attorney if any issues remain after this amendment.



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I hereby certify that this correspondence (Request for reconsideration in application serial no. 10/371,585 filed 02-21-2003) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or is being transmitted by facsimile to 703-872-9306 on June 8, 2005.



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